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United States Patent [19]

Adams

[11] **Patent Number:** 5,392,030[45] **Date of Patent:** Feb. 21, 1995[54] **LOCOMOTIVE PERSONAL ALERT SYSTEM**[76] Inventor: **George W. Adams**, 3468 Sandpiper Ct., Hayward, Calif. 94542[21] Appl. No.: **39,926**[22] Filed: **Mar. 29, 1993**[51] Int. Cl.⁶ **G08B 23/00**[52] U.S. Cl. **340/576; 180/272**

[58] Field of Search 340/576, 575, 439; 180/272

[56]

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ABSTRACT

A safety alertness monitoring system for a vehicle which requires the operator to match a randomly generated alpha-numeric character pattern, consisting of a set of characters, presented at random intervals during normal operation of the vehicle. Failure to input the displayed characters via keyboard leads to an audible alarm. If the operator fails to respond to the audible alarm or an unacceptable number of consecutive alarms occur, the vehicle throttle is disabled and the braking system engaged. The system receives input from the vehicle speedometer and is capable of bringing the vehicle to a smooth controlled stop. The system also receives input from sensors that indicate when the vehicle is being remotely operated. The system is disabled when the vehicle is remotely operated.

5 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets